



COMMITTEE TO  
DRAFT ERIN WEIR



**"Erin Weir is the best choice for Leader of the Saskatchewan NDP."** - Dick Proctor, Former NDP M.P.

## Why We Want Weir for Leader

We wish to draft Erin Weir for the upcoming leadership race because of his proven track record of articulating credible public policies based on progressive values. To rebuild the Saskatchewan NDP, we need to engage members and - even more importantly - the public in a dialogue about ideas and principles.

We must present a substantive critique of the Sask. Party's agenda and specify what a New Democrat government would do differently. Our alternative vision should be based on sound economic analysis.

For a decade, Erin has consistently advocated collecting a fairer return from the extraction of Saskatchewan's non-renewable resources. In recent weeks, he has been almost the only voice speaking up in Saskatchewan newspapers to support Tom Mulcair's concern about the giveaway and unbalanced exploitation of natural resources.

As a strong advocate of tax fairness, Erin wrote papers questioning regressive tax cuts in Saskatchewan and drafted the Alternative Federal Budget's 2009 and 2010 tax chapters. In the House of Commons, Jack Layton cited his paper on how Canadian corporate tax cuts transfer revenue to the US Treasury. Erin has been a leading public proponent of the Ontario NDP's successful budget amendment to collect modestly more provincial tax from personal incomes over \$500,000.

A revenue plan is essential to finance NDP expenditure proposals to improve healthcare, education, the environment, housing, infrastructure, child care and other public ser-

vices. Additional resource revenue should also be used to establish a savings fund for future generations.

Erin has the knowledge of both economics and labour legislation to explain how the Wall government's weakening of labour rights threatens to undermine incomes, consumer spending and economic growth. He wrote a journal article in 2009 noting that provinces with higher unionization enjoy lower unemployment and higher labour productivity.

He worked for the United Steelworkers as it co-founded Blue Green Canada, a growing alliance of environmental organizations and labour unions to promote green jobs. Saskatchewan emits the most greenhouse gas per capita of any province, but also has tremendous potential to generate alternative energy. Fighting climate change is both an obligation and an economic opportunity for Saskatchewan.

Erin was a leading critic of the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA). In two papers published by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives and testimony before Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly hearings, he explained how TILMA uses supposed "inter-provincial trade barriers" as a pretext to unduly restrict provincial policies, regulations and procurement.

In working with Erin, we have seen his principled, pragmatic and progressive approach to politics and policy. He is the best choice to lead the Saskatchewan NDP's renewal and put forward a compelling alternative to the Sask. Party's agenda.

### COMMITTEE TO DRAFT ERIN WEIR

**Dick Proctor**

*Former Member of Parliament  
Former Provincial Secretary*

**Howard Pawley**

*Former NDP Premier*

**Larry Deters**

*Former Provincial Secretary  
Former Party Treasurer*

**Leane Goldsmith**

*Former Constituency and  
Ministerial Assistant*

**Brett Quiring**

*Former NDP Vice-President &  
Former Provincial Office Staff*

**Al Gooding**

*Former Member of Provincial  
Executive from Council*

**Tamara Harder**

*Former President of SNDW  
& Provincial Executive Member*

**Steven Lloyd**

*Former NDP Vice-President &  
Former Caucus Office Staff*



## About Erin

Erin was born in Saskatoon and grew up in Regina. His great grandfather, Bob Gooding, was the CCF candidate against John Diefenbaker in Prince Albert in 1957. His grandfather, Mike Kalmakoff, was General Manager of the Saskatchewan Timber Board in the Douglas government.

Erin has been an active NDP member since 1997, through the Regina Victoria/Douglas Park constituency, Provincial Council, Provincial Executive and *Commonwealth* Editorial Board. He has volunteered on NDP election campaigns in Saskatchewan and across Canada.

Through the Accelerated Economist Training Program, Erin worked in the federal Treasury Board Secretariat, Department of Finance and Privy Council Office. He went on to work as an economist at the Canadian Labour Congress, the International Trade Union Confederation's world headquarters in Brussels and the United Steelworkers union's Canadian office. Erin has represented unions in meetings with the IMF, International Labour Organization, European Commission, OECD, World Bank, and Bank of Canada.

### *Life-Long New Democrat*

- Economic Advisor to the 2008 Federal, 2011 Ontario, and 2011 Saskatchewan NDP election campaigns
- Federal NDP candidate in Wascana against Ralph Goodale, 2004
- President, Saskatchewan Young New Democrats, 2000 - 2001
- Attended government caucus meetings with the Saskatchewan NDP's Legislative Advisory Committee, 1998 - 2000

### *Academic Accomplishments*

- Master of Public Administration, Queen's University (Donald Gow Founder's Medal for highest academic standing)
- Master of Arts in History, University of Calgary (Canadian Nautical Research Society's Jacques Cartier MA Prize)
- Bachelor of Arts (Great Distinction) in Economics, History, and Political Science, University of Regina (Jack Boan Medal for highest graduating average in Economics)
- Outstanding Young Alumni Award, University of Regina

### *Volunteer Service*

- Coordinates a 200-member national organization as the elected President of the Progressive Economics Forum, 2010 - Present
- Research Associate and Author, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, National and Saskatchewan Offices, 2004 - Present
- President, University of Regina Debate Society, 2000 - 2002
- Board of Directors, Saskatchewan Elocution and Debate Association, 1999 - 2002

## COMMITTEE TO DRAFT ERIN WEIR

Principled | Pragmatic | Progressive



Parliamentary Presentation  
- House of Commons (Global National)



Debating Reform M.P. Monte Solberg  
- EI Panel on BNN



Protesting at the G20  
- Downtown Toronto



Presenting to the Minister of Finance  
- Ontario Legislature



# MEDIA AND PARLIAMENTARY APPEARANCES

ERIN HAS AN IMPRESSIVE TRACK RECORD OF EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATING A PROGRESSIVE MESSAGE IN THE MEDIA AND IN THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS, BOTH NATIONALLY AND IN SASKATCHEWAN.

87 • ENTREPRENEUR • THE SMALL BUSINESS



Erin Weir, United Steelworkers representative  
These figures provide a sobering reminder that the technical end of a recession may not imply a total economic collapse.

QUOTED OVER 500 TIMES IN THE PRINT EDITIONS OF CANADIAN NEWSPAPERS

MURRAY MANDRYK GETS IT

MORE THAN 40 NATIONAL TELEVISION APPEARANCES



“... the person doing the [NDP platform] costing was Erin Weir, a former NDP federal candidate, his methodology was consistent with what we see at provincial budget time

”

- Oct. 21, 2011 Column

TESTIFIED MORE THAN 15 TIMES TO COMMITTEES OF PARLIAMENT AND PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURES



MORE THAN 40 OP-EDS AND LETTERS PRINTED IN *THE LEADER-POST* AND *STARPHOENIX*

“Erin Weir may have put it best Tuesday when he told the public hearing that trying to overcome inter-provincial trade barriers through an omnibus agreement like TILMA is a little like ‘going after a fly with a sledgehammer’.

”

- June 9, 2007 Column

MORE THAN 30 OP-EDS AND LETTERS PRINTED IN *THE GLOBE & MAIL* AND *NATIONAL POST*



COMMITTEE TO DRAFT ERIN WEIR

Principled | Pragmatic | Progressive

[www.draftweir.com](http://www.draftweir.com)

